CLAIMS:

1. A beverage maker for brewing a beverage from water and a quantity of particle material, comprising:
- a water supply structure (7, 9, 11, 45);
- a brewing arrangement bounding a brewing chamber (13) downstream of the water supply structure (7, 9, 11, 45) for receiving water supplied by the water supply structure (7, 9, 11, 45); said brewing arrangement comprising a bounding member (14) adjustable for adjusting the operational size of the brewing chamber (13) and an adjustment structure (23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32) for adjusting said bounding member (14); and
- a dispensing channel (19; 37) downstream of the brewing chamber (13) when in an operational condition during the brewing of a beverage;
characterized in that said adjustment structure (23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32) is adjustable in response to the quantity of particles present in said brewing chamber (13).

2. A beverage maker according to claim 1, wherein said adjustment structure (23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32) further comprises a resilient member (25) for resiliently urging said bounding member (14) against particles or a pad (18) containing particles in said brewing chamber (13).

3. A beverage maker according to claim 2, further comprising a locking member (29) for locking said bounding member (14) in a position determined by the quantity of particles in said brewing chamber (13).

4. A beverage maker according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the brewing chamber (13) has a cover (3) that is displaceable away from said brewing chamber (13) for allowing access to said brewing chamber (13) for placing particles or at least one pad (18) of particles in the brewing chamber (13), and wherein said bounding member (14) forms at least a portion of the bottom of said brewing chamber (13).

5. A beverage maker according to claim 4, wherein at least a portion of said dispensing channel (19) extends through a piston member (23) that extends downwards from said bottom (14), said piston (23) being part of said adjustment structure (23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32).

6. A beverage maker according to claim 4 or 5, wherein said cover (3) is operatively connected to said adjustment structure (23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32).

7. A beverage maker according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said adjustment structure (23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32) is arranged for displacing said bounding member (14) in inward direction through said chamber (13) from the position of the bounding member (14) adapting the size of said chamber (13) for accommodating a smallest portion or single pad (18) of particles into a particle or pad removal position.

8. A beverage maker according to claim 7, wherein the adjustment structure (23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32) is arranged for displacing the bounding member (14) into said particle or pad removal position only once between successive brewing operations.

9. A beverage maker according to claim 8, wherein said adjustment structure (23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32) is arranged for displacing said bounding member (14) into an enlarged particle or pad receiving position between successive brewing operations, and from its pad receiving position directly to its brewing position before each brewing operation, and from its brewing position via said pad removal position to said pad receiving position after each brewing operation.

10. A beverage maker according to claims 6 and 9, wherein the adjustment structure (23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32) further comprises a guide structure (32) for guiding a connecting member (26) along a circulatory path (28) in accordance with a reciprocating movement of said cover (3).

11. A beverage maker according to claim 10, wherein said circulatory path is at least one groove or ridge (28), that is movable back and forth and is operatively connected to said cover (3), the adjustment structure (23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32) being adapted for

causing a circulation of said connecting member (26) along said circulating path (28) in one sense of circulation only.

12. A beverage maker according to claim 11, wherein said groove or ridge (28) includes a guide step (50) for causing the circulation of said connecting member (26) along said circulating path (28) to take place in one sense of circulation only.